

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for decrypting encrypted transmissions of at least a first signal and a second signal, comprising:

a receiver for receiving transmissions of the at least first signal and second signal, the receiver having a first embedded conditional access module for decrypting the first transmitted signal, and a second removable conditional access module for decrypting the second transmitted signal;

wherein enabling of the second conditional access module causes the second conditional access module to override the first conditional module.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein a first decryption algorithm is used by the first conditional access module and a second decryption algorithm is used by the second conditional access module, the first and second decryption algorithms being different from each other.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the receiver comprises at least one additional removable conditional access module, each additional removable conditional access module having a different decryption algorithm from each other and from the second removable conditional access module.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the first signal as received by the receiver is encrypted with a first encryption algorithm and the second signal as received by the receiver is encrypted with a second encryption algorithm.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the second conditional access module requires receipt of a transmitted entitlement code for permitting decryption of the second signal.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein an enabling of one or more additional removable conditional access modules causes overriding of the first conditional module and also causes overriding of all but one of the second and additional removable conditional access modules.

7. The system according to claim 1, wherein the first conditional access module is a default conditional access module.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the second conditional access module is enabled by inserting it into the receiver.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the receiver comprises a standard interface for engaging the second conditional access module and interfacing the second conditional access module to the receiver.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the receiver further comprises an initialization module for initializing the receiver to decrypt the second signal upon enabling of the second conditional access module.

11. The system according to claim 10, wherein the system further comprises a transmitter that, after initializing the receiver to decrypt the second signal, the initialization module causes the transmitter to transmit a signal indicating that the receiver is ready to receive the second signal.

12. A transmission station for transmitting encrypted transmissions to a receiver, wherein the transmission station comprises:

at least one head-end having a first conditional access module for encrypting a first signal and a second conditional access module for encrypting a second signal,

the head-end further having an entitlement module for determining whether a receiver has the right to decrypt the second signal,

wherein upon a positive determination by the entitlement module, the transmission station transmits an entitlement code to the receiver for allowing the receiver to decrypt the second signal.

13. The system according to claim 12, wherein the first and second conditional access modules of the head-end use different algorithms to encrypt the first and second signals, respectively.

14. The system according to claim 12, wherein the transmission station determines whether the receiver has the right to decrypt the second signal upon receiving a message from the receiver indicating that the receiver is ready to receive and decrypt the second signal.

15. The system according to claim 12, wherein the at least one head end comprises a plurality of conditional modules for encrypting a plurality of signals, each conditional module using a different algorithm for encryption; and wherein the entitlement module separately determines the rights of the receiver to decrypt each of the plurality of signals.

16. A system for decrypting encrypted transmissions of at least one signal, comprising a receiver for receiving transmissions of the at least one signal, the receiver having a first embedded conditional access module and a second removable conditional access module for decrypting received transmissions, wherein enabling of the second removable conditional access module causes the second removable conditional access module to override the first conditional access module.

17. The system as in claim 16, wherein the first embedded conditional access module and the second removable conditional access module have different decryption algorithms.

18. The system as in claim 17, wherein the decryption algorithm of the first embedded conditional access module is capable of decrypting a portion of a first signal received by the receiver and the decryption algorithm of the second conditional access module, when enabled, is capable of decrypting the entire first signal.

19. The system as in claim 16, wherein the first embedded conditional access module decrypts a first signal and the second removable conditional access module decrypts a second signal.